

Message

From: Lisa Rector [lrector@nescaum.org]
Sent: 4/3/2020 5:57:38 PM
To: Toney, Mike [Toney.Mike@epa.gov]
CC: Johnson, Steffan [johnson.steffan@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: proportionality

Thanks Mike for your response. I was requesting information for certification purposes rather than research data.

I hope you have a great weekend.

Lisa

From: Toney, Mike <Toney.Mike@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 3, 2020 1:36 PM
To: Lisa Rector <lrector@nescaum.org>
Cc: Johnson, Steffan <johnson.steffan@epa.gov>
Subject: proportionality

Hi Lisa,

I am assuming you are using ASTM E2515 for particulate sampling. The acceptable range in the method is within 10% of the initial proportionality at the beginning of the test. At the end of the test if you are out of this 10% requirement the test is not valid. Keep in mind proportionality is calculated at each time interval data is collected. So one can go back and look at the data point to see where it when off to see what happened. There is nothing in 2515 that tells you what to do if you are outside this range other than stay within 10%. If you are doing research you can make a judgement call if this is critical enough to warrant a retest, 1 to three or 4 data points maybe acceptable for your research. But if there are multiple recordings outside your acceptance range , I would make a judgement call to stop the test and look at the equipment , something could be clogged or pump going bad slowly etc. This should be cited in your data quality objectives. I hope this has helped you. Remember in the original EPA Method 28 the requirement was +/- 20%, so between 80 to 120 percent was acceptable.